brought under cultivation at economic cost. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Watershed Management in the catchment of Flood Prone River provide for the treatment of barren lands in the selected watersheds

[English]

Supply of Milk Powder and Butter Oil by EEC

2292. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an agreement with the European Economic Community (EEC) for the supply of milk powder and butter oil for the Operation Flood-III Project;

(b) if so, whether at present the EEC is reluctant to honour its commitments;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and steps proposed to be taken to ensure that EEC honours its commitments;

(d) whether at present there is a shortfall in production of milk and milk powder products in the country;

(e) whether the Government are also considering the proposal to permit export of milk powder by private sector;

(f) if so, the quantity proposed to be exported, country-wise; and

(g) whether the proposal of export is opposed by the National Dairy Development Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However there has been some delay in making gift commodities available.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The production of milk products had to be curtailed as priority has been given by the public/cooperative sector dairy plants to meet the requirement of liquid milk of cities and towns. However, with the onset of the flush season the production and availability of milk products is expected to improve.

(e) to (g). The export of milk power has been canalised through NDDB. There is no proposal under consideration at present to permit the export of milk powder by as private sector.

South-South Co-Operation

2293. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had taken any decision to promote South-South Co-operation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). India has always emphasised the importance of South-South Co-operation. During the Non-aligned Summit in Belgrade in 1989, India joined in the initiative to create a summit level group on South-South consultation and co-operation (G-15). The Group provides a forum for regular and indepth consultations at the highest level on international issues and to promote South-South Co-operation. Several specific projects for South-South Co-operation have been identified by the Group. a summit level meeting of Group of 15 recently took place in Caracas,

Venezuela, where India also actively participated.

Extension of Community Irrigation Project in Kerala

2294. SHRI T.J. ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for the extension of Community Irrigation Project to more districts in the State which is being implemented with Dutch assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). The Pilot Project with Dutch aid is to be presently implemented in the Trichur District with the likelihood of further expansion as and when additional phases of the Project are appraised and implemented.

[*Translation*]

Loss Suffered by NSC

2295. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Seeds Corporation are incurring losses;

(b) whether the Government appointed the Tata Consultancy Services to go into the working of NSC;

(c) if so, the recommendations made by the consultants; and

(d) the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) M/s. Tata Consultancy Services have not submitted their final recommendations.

(d) In the light of (c), this does not arise. [*English*]

Pipeline to Carry Gas from Assam to Bongaigaon

2296. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to construct a gas pipeline to carry excess gas from oil-field of Assam to Bongaigaon;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) The gas available from the oil and gas fields of Assam has been committed to various consumers in the State.

LPG Connections in Orissa

2297. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: